

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. An end closure assembly for a pressure vessel, the end closure
2 assembly comprising:

3 a non-metal universal head member positioned in an opening in the
4 pressure vessel, wherein the universal head member has a size
5 complementary to the opening in the pressure vessel;

6 a retainer ring member engaged with the pressure vessel for retaining
7 the universal head member in the opening in the pressure vessel; and

8 a securing plate member engaged with the retainer ring member for
9 securing the retainer ring member.

1 2. The end closure assembly of claim 1, further comprising an
2 elliptical head member.

1 3. The end closure assembly of claim 2, wherein the elliptical head
2 member is in contact with the universal head member.

1 4. The end closure assembly of claim 1, wherein the universal
2 head member further comprises an integral access section.

1 5. The end closure assembly of claim 1, wherein the retainer ring
2 member is non-metal.

1 6. The end closure assembly of claim 1, wherein the retainer ring
2 comprises at least two elements.

1 7. The end closure assembly of claim 6, wherein the elements are
2 substantially identical in shape.

1 8. The end closure assembly of claim 7, wherein the elements are
2 identical in shape.

1 9. The end closure assembly of claim 1, wherein the universal
2 head member is plastic.

1 10. The end closure assembly of claim 1, wherein the universal
2 head member comprises a domed-shaped element and a tubular element.

1 11. The end closure assembly of claim 10, wherein the tubular
2 element comprises a threaded portion.